

Chow 1999-0323

*Remarks*

Reconsideration of remaining claims 1-4, 7-21 and 28-44 is respectfully requested.

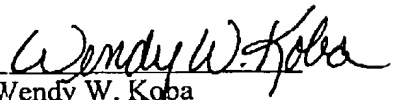
In the Office action dated February 25, 2005, the Examiner cited claims 28-43 as being allowed. Claims 5, 6, 15-17, 19-21 and 44 were objected to as depending from a rejected basic claim, and claims 1-4, 7-14, 18 and 22-27 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a).

In response to the Examiner's objections and rejections, applicants have amended independent claim 1 to include the allowable subject matter from claims 5 and 6, where claims 5 and 6 have now been cancelled from this application. Similarly, method claims 22-27 have been cancelled.

With these amendments, applicants believe that all of the remaining claims are now in condition for allowance and respectfully request an early and favorable response from the Examiner in that regard. If for some reason or other the Examiner does not agree that the case is ready to issue, and that an interview or telephone conversation would further the prosecution, the Examiner is invited to contact applicants' attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: 5/24/05